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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/31/2008

SPONSOR Martinez LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

Hazardous Materials Decontamination

SHORT TITLE Evaluation SB 458

ANALYST McOlash

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$400.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 110 and HB 132.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

RESPONSES FROM AGENCIES

Department of Health (DOH)

New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED)

Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department (HSEMD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis

Senate Bill 458 appropriates \$400,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of Northern New Mexico State School for expenditure in FY09 to provide hazardous materials science-based decontamination evaluation and training to volunteer and full-time emergency first responders and receivers.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$400,000 contained in this bill is identified as a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

As reported by NMHED the Northern New Mexico College (NNMC) Environmental Science program offers 20 courses, at least half of which pertain to hazardous materials:

- *Introduction to Waste Management*, which provides an overview of environmental impacts of hazardous material on air, surface water, ground water, and land;
- *Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) Health and Safety*, which provides an overview of accepted technologies to protect the health and safety of personnel handling hazardous waste;
- *Field Instrumentation*, which covers commonly used monitoring equipment used on hazardous waste sites;
- *Environmental and Occupational Law and Regulations*, which surveys federal and state regulations relating to waste management, occupational health, air and waste pollution, and environmental management;
- *Water Resources and Biological Monitoring*, which covers the physical and chemical properties of water, its mechanisms of flow, and important biological indicators of contamination;
- *Water Resources and Biological Monitoring Lab*, which analyzes the physical and chemical properties of water, mechanisms of flow, and biological indicators of contamination;
- *Pollution Prevention and Waste Minimization*, which covers pollution prevention and hazardous waste minimization;
- *Environmental Lab Instrumentation*, which includes techniques to evaluate contaminants in water, wastewater, sludge, ground water, soil, and air.
- *Introduction to Treatment, Storage, and Disposal of Hazardous Materials*, including physical, chemical, biological and thermal materials; and
- *Special Environmental Topics*, including hazardous waste, environmental issues, and public communications.

Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department has oversight for all hazardous materials response protocols and training per the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Act. The agency agrees decontamination training for first responders in the event of a hazardous material, radioactive and/or terrorist event is greatly needed in the state. Fully trained decontamination teams more widely available statewide would enhance capabilities and provide better response for citizens.

This request was not submitted by NNMC to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for review and is not included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY09.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP OR RELATIONSHIP

House Bill 110 appropriates \$400,000 to the Department of Public Safety for Emergency Responder Decontamination Training.

Senate Bill 458 relates to HB 132 which appropriates \$1,000,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of NNMC for expenditure in FY09 to start new bachelor degree programs, including Environmental Science.

AMENDMENTS

Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department contends the proposed legislation should be amended to appropriate funding to its department.

BM/bb